



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Journalist Pushes for Public Release of Footage Documenting Murder of 250 Civilians in Damascus Massacre

- PLO: UNRWA's Mission Irreplaceable
- Palestinian Refugee Wins Pistol Shooting Competition in Spain
- 90 Palestinian Students Take Part in Preparatory, Secondary School Exams in Syria



Latest Development

Chief-editor of Zaman Al Wasl newspaper Fathi Ibrahim Fayad has called upon Amsterdam University to release the 26 footages which it had received of the Tadamun massacre, in Damascus.

This comes shortly after the two main researchers in the team to uncover the massacre in the al-Tadamon neighbourhood of Damascus, Ansar Shahoud, and Professor Ugur Ungor, issued a statement to the families of the massacre victims about the mechanism for identifying the victims.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the researchers called on the families of the victims of the April 16th, 2013 massacre, who identified their relatives, to submit a report containing all information about the victims to the German International Police Agency specialized in war crimes (BKA).

According to the statement, the German International Police will take over the process of identifying victims, taking into account the scientific and professional conditions, as a priority, a humanitarian necessity, and a step towards justice.

Bayoud said families should gain access to the footages in order to identify the victims. He also stressed the need to identify the man who filmed the massacre.

He said the University of Amsterdam should have rather published the victims' photos and videos documenting their murder, saying victims' families and the judiciary should gain free access to such materials.



The calls coincide with news that the Syrian regime has detained the main perpetrator of the massacre. In a statement published on May 30, the Syrian Network for Human Rights said: “The Syrian regime is detaining the criminal Amjad Youssef, who executed dozens of Syrians and raped dozens of women in the Tadamon neighbourhood of Damascus.”

In another development, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) said UNRWA’s role is vital and irreplaceable for Palestine refugees.

The PLO said UNRWA was created by General Assembly resolution 302 (IV), with the mandate to provide direct relief and works programmes to Palestine refugees.

This came in a Sunday meeting of the Supreme Committee of the MLO’s Executive Committee, which follows up on the mandate of UNRWA.

The committee confirmed that the body that is responsible for UNRWA's mandate is the United Nations General Assembly through a vote of its Member States.

The committee also discussed the financial situation of UNRWA in light of the continuing financial deficit in its budget estimated at \$100 million, in addition to the statements issued by the Commissioner-General of UNRWA on strengthening partnerships with international organizations to provide service on behalf of UNRWA.



Accordingly, the Committee rejected UNRWA Commissioner-General Philip Lazzarini's letter, dated April 23 and addressed to Palestinian refugees, regarding increasing partnerships within the United Nations system to provide services on behalf of the UN agency and under its supervision.

The committee considered his remarks as a transgression and violation of the authority assigned to him as an executive officer responsible before the General Assembly for the progress of UNRWA's work and its service and operational programs in accordance with Article (9) of Resolution 302.

It also viewed the comments as an insult to UNRWA's status, continuity and survival, as a witness to the crime of uprooting an entire people from their homeland and their right to return.

The committee called on the Commissioner-General of UNRWA to retract his letter, urging him to search for new funding models to mobilize financial resources and secure sustainable funding that enhances the role of UNRWA to carry out its tasks.

The PLO also called on the United Nations and its Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to increase their financial contributions to cover the financial deficit in the UNRWA budget.

It also called on donor countries to fulfill their financial pledges to UNRWA to enable it to overcome its financial deficit and to play its role in providing relief and employment services to Palestinian refugees.



It stressed that the Palestinian move would be at the highest political and diplomatic levels to mobilize political support for the renewal of UNRWA's mandate, and for the success of the Pledges Conference for major donors to be held in New York on June 23.

Meanwhile, Palestinian-Syrian youth Saeed Kazak won the first place in the 50-meter pistol shooting event held as part of the International Olympic Shooting Competition, organized by the Spanish Shooting Club in the Shooting Union Square in Madrid.

Saeed has joined several such tournaments, including the Spanish Championship. Last month he won the second place in the King's Cup contest held in Granada.

He is also considered one of the most famous bullfighters in Spain. He has become a first-class fighter for bulls weighing more than 600 kg.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee students sheltered in northern Syria displacement camps have started to take their final exams as of Saturday, June 4.

Local CSOs said 90 Palestinian refugee students sheltered in Idlib, Efrin, I'zaz, and AlBab, in northern Syria, are sitting for exams.

Four buses are carrying students freely from and back to their houses and tents in Atama and Akrebat, on Idlib's northern outskirts.

Over the past couple of weeks, intensive courses were held in northern Syria in order to help displaced schoolchildren and students revise for exams.